



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**WASHINGTON, DC**

17 FEB 2004

Office of the Assistant Secretary

**SAF/IEI**  
**1665 Air Force Pentagon**  
**Washington DC 20330-1665**

**The Honorable Duncan L. Hunter**  
**Chairman, Committee on Armed Services**  
**United States House of Representatives**  
**Washington DC 20515-6035**

**Dear Mr. Chairman**

**The Air Force intends to carry out an unspecified minor military construction project at Laughlin AFB, Texas, using Military Construction Appropriations Act funds. This \$1,250,000 project is required to replace a facility that has been evacuated due to structural failure. If the Education Center is not replaced, we cannot provide the quality education and testing services our people at Laughlin AFB deserve.**

**An inspection in late August, 2003, revealed severe structural failure in the Education Center. The wooden roof trusses have sheared, cracked, split, and in many cases, are failing altogether. Non-load bearing walls are supporting the structure, keeping it from collapsing altogether. All personnel and equipment have been moved from the facility. Classes and testing are temporarily being performed in other locations, which do not meet the noise, security or associations requirements of an education facility.**

**A similar letter has been sent to the Ranking Minority Member of your Committee.**

**Sincerely**

**FRED W. KUHN**  
**Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force**  
**(Installations)**

**Attachment:**  
**Air Force Report (P-341 Project, Education**  
**Center, Laughlin AFB, TX)**